

III. Remarks

Claims 1-28 are rejected and pending. With this Paper, the Applicants have amended claims 1 and 27, and have cancelled claims 18-26 and 28 of the present application. Additionally, the Applicants have amended the specification. With the amendments and remarks provided herewith, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and a withdrawal of all objections and rejections.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a step of "sensing each outgoing email address of each subsequent email message to be sent from the second system" and claim 27 has been amended to recite a mechanism for sensing such outgoing email address of each subsequent email message to be sent. Support for such limitations and amendments may be found on page 7, lines 11-24. Thus, no new matter has been added.

Objections to the Specification

Responsive to the objection of the Title of the invention, it is not clear as to the Examiner's grounds for objecting to the Title as filed and as to how the Examiner's suggested title is more descriptive.

Objections to the Drawings

Responsive to the objections to the drawings on paragraph 2 of the Office action, the specification has been amended accordingly. More specifically, the specification no longer includes reference numerals 13 and 15. Thus, Figure 1 now complies with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5). The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all objections to the drawings.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Responsive to the rejections of claims 1 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Tsuei* (U.S. Patent No. 6,654,779), *Tsuei* does not teach each and every element as recited in each of amended claims 1 and 27 of the present application. For example, amended claim 1 recites a step of "sensing each outgoing email address of each subsequent email message to be sent from the second

system.” Amended claim 1 of the present invention senses prior to each message being sent. Moreover, amended claim 27 recites a mechanism for sensing each outgoing email address prior to each message being sent. *Tsuei* fails to teach such limitation. Rather, *Tsuei* teaches that, only after a message had been sent and has been returned to a sender ISP with an error message, the sender ISP forwards a message to an intended recipient at a new ISP.

In the preferred embodiment of the present invention, the sender ISP 120 is configured to autoforward e-mail containing an old address to a new address. If a message is sent to an intended recipient at the old address, the message is returned to the sender ISP 120 with an error message, since there is no address match at Old ISP 140. At that point, the sender ISP 120 queries the EAMS 330 over the Internet 130 to find out if there is an address change registered with the EAMS for the old address. Then, the EAMS 330 searches its database to see if it contains a record relating the old address to a new address. If a new address is found for the old address, then the EAMS 330 sends the new address back to the sender ISP 120. With the new address, the sender ISP 120 automatically forwards the message to the intended recipient 150 at the new ISP 320 and notifies the sender 110 via e-mail of the intended recipient's new address.

Tsuei col. 7; ll. 31-46 (emphasis added).

Tsuei clearly does not teach sensing each outgoing email address of each subsequent email message to be sent from the second system as recited in amended claim 1 (and in amended claim 27) of the present application. Clearly, *Tsuei* does not teach each and every element recited in each of amended claims 1 and 27 of the present application. Therefore, each of amended claims 1 and 27 is allowable.

Claims 2-17 depend generally from claim 1. Thus, claims 2-17 are allowable for the reasons provided above.

As mentioned above, claims 18-26 and 28 have been cancelled. Thus, no further discussion is necessary.

Therefore, claims 1-17 and 27 are in a condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

February 19, 2005

Date

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Almeda', written over a horizontal line.

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